

Okinawa MARINE

Two California-based helicopter squadrons arrive on Okinawa for six-months as part of the Unit Deployment Program. See page 5 for more.



February 2, 2001

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

www.okinawa.usmc.mil

INSIDE

NEWS

Okinawa base receives new electric vehicles

Marine Corps Base motor transport officials received 10 battery-powered vehicles which will save the Corps up to \$500 in gas per vehicle per year while also lowering maintenance costs.

see page 3 for more

NEWS

New SafeKids program targets Internet dangers

The NCIS Computer Investigations and Operations Department developed SafeKids in an effort to protect children from computer crime, and it has arrived in Department of Defense Dependents Schools on Okinawa.

see page 7 for more

FEATURE

Center supports Marine messhalls on Okinawa

The Cook-Chill Production Center keeps Marines and Sailors stationed on Okinawa well-fed by supplying over 70 percent of all pre-cooked and ready-to-eat food items to Marine messhalls.

see pages 10-11 for more

SPORTS

Sole U.S. team takes area rugby league by storm

The only American rugby team competing in the Okinawan Rugby Union, the Exiles, are made up of Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Soldiers who have battled their way to a 3rd-place ranking.

see page 16 for more

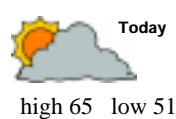
LEISURE

Local performer juggles career with life in Corps

Lead singer of the local band "Kellie Wright and Blue Diamond," Kellie Wiker's entertainment career has taken her from Vegas to Hollywood and now into the Marine Corps as a Marine wife and mother.

see page 17 for more

FORECAST



Today

high 65 low 51



Saturday

high 57 low 53



Sunday

high 61 low 59

INDEX

News	3
News	5
News	7
Briefs/Opinion	8-9
Feature	10-11
Feature	12
Feature	13
Community	14
Sports	16
Leisure	17
Marketplace	18



PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE

A new look

Cpl Roston Boodram, left, and LCpl Shawn L. Holmes, both of Company L, 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, here as part of the Unit Deployment Program, are among the first Marines Corpswide to wear a test version of the new camouflage utility uniform. Aside from being wash and wear, the most noticeable modifications are slanted pockets and zip away sleeves. Recruits could begin wearing a version of the new uniform as soon as October. The testing period will last 90 days.

Oki Marines ready for tax season

SGT ROBERT J. ANGUS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER – More than 120 Marine unit tax representatives received tax preparation training from an Internal Revenue Service instructor here Jan. 8-12.

The Marines received the training to assist the Legal Service Support Section Tax Center by preparing simple electronic tax returns, according to SSgt James B. Baughman, Director, LSSS Tax Center.

"Following the IRS training, these Marines will complete basic tax returns and bring them to us for electronic filing," SSgt Baughman said. "They may do some of the more difficult returns if they feel comfortable, but that's what the Tax Center is here for."

The tax training covered everything from the basic 1040EZ Tax Form to itemizing deductions on the Schedule D for the 1040 Tax Form.

"There are a lot of rules they have to understand," said Doug J. Kahl, Revenue Agent, IRS, Grand Junction, Colo. "We cover the basics and special topics like claiming foreign earned income because of being overseas."

Training people to do their taxes is a rewarding experience, Kahl said.

"This is the second year I've come to Okinawa to train service members," Kahl said. "Besides getting a free trip to Japan, I like coming here to teach people to help themselves by doing their own taxes. It's rewarding to see students succeeding in filing simple nonbusiness tax returns with minimal problems."

The class was very informative and made a difficult topic easier to understand, said to SSgt Don P. Michne, Comptroller Chief, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group and III MEF Tax Coordinator.

"I learned a lot from the class," SSgt Michne said. "It's a lot easier than I thought it would be and I'm

looking forward to putting this information to use."

Once training was complete, the Marines were required to complete a five-part, more than 100-page long test on tax preparation, according to SSgt Baughman.

"The Marine tax representatives are required to pass the first three parts of the test," SSgt Baughman said. "The last two parts cover more difficult returns which include capital gains/losses and complicated itemized returns. If the tax reps aren't comfortable doing these kinds of returns, we can do them here at the Tax Center."

To find out who your unit's tax representative is, call 645-1TAX or contact these command representatives.

MCB: Sgt Wilson 645-7462
3d FSSG: SSgt Roberts 637-2185
3d MarDiv: Cysgt Jones 625-2278
1st MAW: SSgt Barton 636-3744
III MEF: SSgt Michne 623-4643

Report traffic violations at 645-7441/7442

Electric vehicles arrive on Island

Marine Corps Base's battery-powered vehicles reduce cost, maintenance

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Marine Corps Base motor transport officials received 10 battery-powered vehicles Dec. 19 that will help cut fuel and maintenance costs.

Each vehicle is powered by six 8-volt batteries and will save the Marine Corps approximately \$5,000 annually on fuel. This is a big deal considering the Marine Corps spends \$2,300 daily on fuel in Okinawa, according to Maj Danny R. Strand, Motor Transport Officer, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base.

"These new vehicles will be perfect for running around base," Maj Strand said. "Ninety percent of the driving on Okinawa is done within a two-mile area."

The vehicles cost \$6,500 each and are manufactured by Club Car, a company that specializes in golf carts. They are made primarily of aluminum and magnesium and have a 1,000-pound payload.

"These vehicles are perfect for the Okinawan environment," Maj Strand said. "It provides us an almost maintenance-free vehicle."

"With these new vehicles we don't have to change the oil or antifreeze. Changing the motor only takes approximately 10 minutes. A regular vehicle might take four or five days," said William H. Cox, Base Motor Transport Maintenance Officer. "All parts are easily re-

placed and each vehicle will probably save \$5,000 over its lifetime in maintenance costs."

The new vehicles take four to six hours to fully charge the battery systems. A fully-charged battery system will operate the vehicle for approximately eight hours. The vehicles can be plugged directly into any 110-volt outlet, Maj Strand said.

Electric powered vehicles are important to the Marine Corps because they cut costs and are good for the environment, according to Maj Strand.

"Ninety-one percent of the world's petroleum has already been discovered," Maj Strand said. "The price of gasoline is not going to go down."

Maj Strand says that Marines can expect to see a large portion of vehicles in Japan becoming electric due to gas prices.

Despite the benefits of electric as opposed to gas powered vehicles, the transportation unit here is one of only three commands Corpwide to incorporate electric vehicles into its fleet, according to Maj Strand.

Some reasons for the reluctance to get new electric vehicles are that they don't have enough power, run out of energy quickly and don't get as much speed as gas powered models, according to Maj Strand.

"A couple of people have told me that these new vehicles are too slow, but that is the only complaint I have had," Maj Strand said.

"The challenge is to find vehicles that will meet our needs while reducing maintenance and still fulfill customers' needs," Maj Strand said. "I think we are headed in the right direction."



LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
SSgt Vincent L. Wilson, Materiel Handling Equipment Chief, H&S Bn, MCB, test drives an electric vehicle which will save the Marine Corps up to \$500 in gas per-vehicle, per-year.

Personnel living off base urged to turn in receipts

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Civilian workers eligible for Living Quarters Allowance risk losing it if utility receipts are not turned in before March 31, which is the end of the Japanese fiscal year.

All off base service members and civilian employees' utility receipts, including those not turned in from April to December, must be turned in to the unit program coordinator or the Civilian Personnel Office so the Marine Corps can get reimbursed, according to Jose A. Perez, Cost Sharing Program Manager.

Failure of civilian employees to comply may result in termination of their LQA according to Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 7220.4A.

Since April 1992, the government of Japan has had a Cost Sharing Program, which has earned the Marine Corps an average of \$700,000 per year. The CSP reimburses the U.S. government for utility expenditures made by military and civilian personnel living on and off base.



Perez

Last year the Marine Corps was reimbursed \$1.2 million.

However, this year due to a low participation rate of 58.7 percent, the Marine Corps is only looking at approximately \$950,000 reimbursement, according to CWO4 David G. Fuqua, Finance Officer, Camp Butler.

"Just because it is a new year doesn't mean we can't collect from last year," Perez said. "This program starts on April 1 so there is still time to collect old receipts."

When turning in receipts, customers must have proof of payment, such as a stamp, and the quantity of utility consumed on the receipt, according to Perez.

"Units are not informing Marines or enforcing the MCBJO," CWO4 Fuqua said. "The commands need to make Marines aware of this program."

Even if LQA is not taken away, service members and civilians can still face disciplinary action if they fail to comply with MCBJO 7220.4A, CWO4 Fuqua said.

The way to increase participation among civilians and military members is to get the commands involved, according to CWO4 Fuqua.

"Every time the command gets involved, participation rates go up," he said. "With command involvement, I am optimistic that we will have a high turn out rate from both civilians and military members."

If unsure about status of receipts, call the finance office at 645-7432.

Individuals should contact their unit coordinator for further information about the program.

Past due accounts pay high price

LCPL KENNETH L. HINSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Bank of America recently issued a warning to Marines and civilians concerning past-due government charge card accounts used for official travel.

BOA has not reported any delinquent accounts to the National Credit Bureaus until now. The increasing number of past due accounts has caused BOA to enforce their right to report all charged-off or canceled account holders to NCBs, according to an Marine Corps administrative message released Jan. 9.

Reports received by NCBs can have both immediate and long term consequences.

Those with travel card accounts need to be continually aware that their credit record can be greatly affected if accounts are cancelled or charged-off, according to the message. Even after an account balance has been paid, it can still take years to restore a good credit record.

"There are a variety of reasons why an account may become overdue, and many of these reports are simply a case of payments and notices crossing in the mail," said Capt Reginald L. Hairston, Base Adjutant, Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base.

Cardholders are notified through their command when their accounts reach 60, 90, or 120 days past due.



Capt Hairston

Starting in April, accounts that are 126 days past due will be cancelled and will be reported to NCBs. If an account still remains past due after 210 days it will be charged off as a bad debt and turned over to a collection agency. Charged-off accounts will be reported to NCBs starting Jan. 31, according to the administrative message.

"Marines should also keep in mind that the issuing bank still requires payments each billing cycle if a balance is due," Capt Hairston said. "Cardholders are responsible for contacting the bank if arrangements need to be made for a later payment."

Allowing an account to go past its due date or refusing to pay the balance is considered card abuse and is prohibited, according to Marine Corps regulations. This behavior violates good order, discipline, morale, and readiness.

Violations are punishable under Article 134 of the UCMJ and a cardholder can be subject to non-judicial punishment.

If a service member feels that there is an error in his account causing a delinquent payment, the first step is to contact a bank representative, Capt Hairston said. The issuing bank will advise the service member of the best course of action to take.

"Marine leaders should counsel Marines on a variety of issues, to include the responsible payment of financial obligations," Capt Hairston said. "Marines should continue to be counseled on this as they apply for and use their government credit cards."



An AH-1W Super Cobra prepares to be the first helicopter from HMLA-267 to fly at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma since the UDP unit arrived Jan. 6. The "Stingers" of HMLA-267 are from Camp Pendleton, Calif., and are scheduled to be here six months to provide support for III Marine Expeditionary Force.

PHOTOS BY SGT JASON SCHAAP

Squadrons arrive for training

SGT. ROBERT J. ANGUS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — Two California-based helicopter squadrons arrived here recently for six months of training as part of the Unit Deployment Program.

Marines and Sailors with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron-267, from Camp Pendleton, arrived Jan. 6. Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-361, from MCAS Miramar, arrived Jan. 14. Both squadrons will become part of Marine Air Group-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing during their UDP tour.

The two arriving units look forward to the challenges ahead, according to squadron commanders.

"We've trained pretty hard to get here," said LtCol Fred Wenger III, Commanding Officer, HMH-361, MAG-36, 1st MAW. "We've gotten our core competency levels where they need to be and will use the missions and deployments here to continue to train our junior Marines."

"Our Marines have been preparing for this deployment since we returned home from our last trip here 18 months ago," said LtCol Robert A. Martinez, Commanding Officer, HMLA-267, MAG-

36, 1st MAW. "I think we are at our peak proficiency level, both our pilots and air crew. This is a tremendous training opportunity and MAG-36 has laid out a great road to success for us."

As the two squadrons get settled in, both have a busy schedule ahead, according to Col Thomas L. Conant, Commanding Officer, MAG-36, 1st MAW.

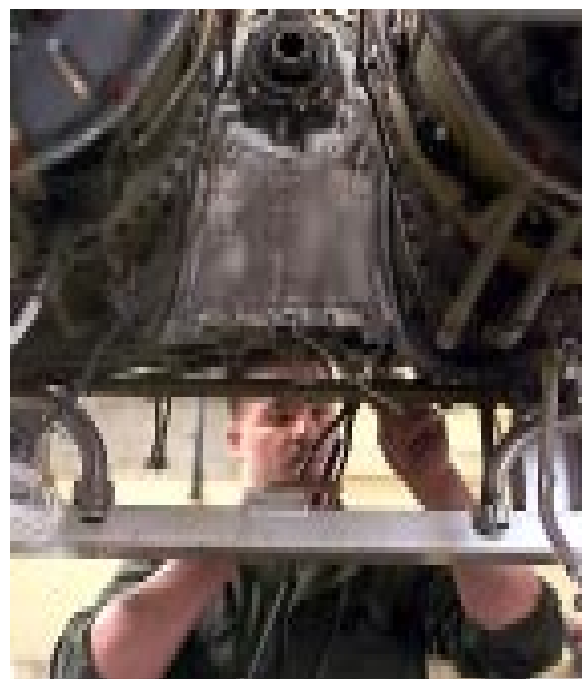
"Both squadrons will be kept busy participating in the Korean Incremental Training Program and Exercise Balikatan," Col Conant said. "And I also hope they get out to enjoy Okinawa."

HMLA-267 will be resuming Defense Air Combat Training during its tour, according to LtCol Martinez.

"Defense Air Combat Training was suspended about 10 years ago, but was recently revived," LtCol Martinez said. "This training will be new to most of our pilots and we hope that by the time we leave here, we will be proficient."

With plans for the next six months laid out, both squadrons main goal is to support III Marine Expeditionary Force the best way they can, according to squadron commanders.

"We want to have fun while supporting III MEF with the best heavy lift capabilities in the Pacific," LtCol Wenger said.



LCpl Shawn Stalwart, Helicopter Engine Mechanic, HMLA-267, makes adjustments to a UH-1N "Huey" helicopter engine at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

"We can't wait to get integrated with our fellow combat assault elements within III MEF," LtCol Martinez said.

Sergeants major trading places to benefit III MHG, SNCO Academy

CPL. KIMBERLY S. DOWELL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP HANSEN — Change of Commands are common on Marine Corps installations and having two or three occur on the same day is not unusual.

However, two sergeants major, who exchange duties with the passing of the noncommissioned officer's sword during their Post and Relief ceremonies, is not as common.

At a ceremony here Jan. 18, SgtMaj James M. Ricker relinquished his position as sergeant major of the Staff NCO Academy and became the new sergeant major for III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group and Camp Hansen while SgtMaj Michael O. White of III MHG and Camp Hansen took over directorship of the SNCO Academy.

"I enjoyed having the opportunity to see the Group come together," SgtMaj White said. "I had the chance to see the bond form, communication improve and the units start working together. SgtMaj Ricker's experience at the academy will benefit the Group as I know he intends to continue to work with the group to improve PME for enlisted Marines."

Both sergeants major thanked their families and their units for the continued support for projects undertaken by the academy and the Group. SgtMaj White gave special acknowledgment to Kin Town VIPs present at the ceremony.

"We can never thank the people of Kin Town enough," SgtMaj White said. "They have really opened their arms to the Marines and Sailors here."

SgtMaj Ricker devoted his thanks

to the Marines who keep the academy in motion. The success of the academy relies on the team effort of the staff, according to SgtMaj Ricker.

Without the team effort, continued improvement wouldn't be possible, he said.

Marine Corps Base Commanding General, BGen Willie Williams, said the event was "unprecedented" as the sergeants major move only blocks away from their previous posts. He and Hansen's Camp Commander, Col Michael C. O'Neal, said they felt fortunate to be able to post two strong leaders so close together.

Looking on as the sergeants major reported to their respective commanders, BGen Williams and Col O'Neal recognized the opportunity to maintain a close working relationship as a great benefit to both commands.



CPL KIMBERLY S. DOWELL
SgtMaj Michael O. White, left, and SgtMaj James M. Ricker exchange positions Jan. 18.

SafeKids targets Internet dangers

Program helps parents, children navigate information highway

CPL KIMBERLY S. DOWELL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Armed with a search engine and chat rooms, criminals have a whole new dark street corner to work from — the Internet.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service Computer Investigations and Operations Department developed SafeKids in an effort to help parents teach their children the street smarts of Internet roadways. The program is designed to protect children from computer crime, and is nearly ready for implementation with the Department of Defense Dependents Schools on Okinawa.

The program is “a computer crime prevention initiative specifically designed to provide on-line safety information to Navy and Marine Corps children and families,” according to an article by Matt Parsons published in the October edition of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Law Enforcement Bulletin called *Protecting Children on the Electronic Frontier: a law enforcement challenge*.

Common computer crimes tackled by the program include child pornography, stalking, harassment, and the promotion of school violence via Internet chat rooms and e-mail.

The SafeKids program here was introduced by NCIS in Sept. 1999. It addresses Internet safety issues of Navy and Marine families stationed in foreign countries and helps inform U.S. military leaders about ways to protect against child pornography on the World Wide Web. Being outside the United States does not mean our families are out of touch with their law enforcement agency, nor are they immune from predat-



CPL KIMBERLY S. DOWELL
Courtney Plemons, 9, a 4th grader at Killin Elementary School, prepares her history paper on a computer in the school library. Plemons credits her parents and teachers for teaching her some safety precautions when using the Internet.

tory activity which occurs on the Internet in America.

The SafeKids program has made its way on to Okinawa during the past year.

The program here now uses in-school presentations, an educational CD-ROM, identify websites, provide substantive and related information as well as enhance already active cooperative partnerships between DoDDS and law enforcement agencies, including Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment Kadena, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigations Division Detachment Torii Station and the USMC Military Police Investiga-

tions unit on Camp Foster to educate parents and children on this threat. NCIS Okinawa has also offered participation in SafeKids with Japanese law enforcement agencies on Okinawa in a combined effort, similar to other international coordination efforts by NCIS Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

According to Parsons, children in military families stationed in foreign countries “may experience more exposure than mainstream American youngsters” to the internet and its potential dangers.

As parents juggle deployments, adjusting to a foreign culture and the daily tasks of military family life, the home computer can easily become an “electronic baby-sitter.”

The in-school presentations, named For Kids Only and directed to grades 4-9, address such topics as inappropriate types of communication, Internet ethics and privacy issues, and webpage considerations.

In an effort to have a more lasting impact on our children, the ‘For Kids Only’ briefs are being discussed as a high school community service project. This new aspect would provide a unique internship opportunity for motivated high school students to be involved in the SafeKids program. Those selected for participation would receive special training on the associated issues as well as have an opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with a law enforcement agency sponsor.

High school interns will be taught to brief elementary and middle school students on how to properly communicate via the Internet and other aspects of SafeKids. In turn, the teen interns will receive credit for their work.

Another key element of the program, Parents’ Posse, teaches parents some basic net “surfing” language and actions. The improved knowledge helps parents control what their children access on the Internet and aids in communication between parents and law enforcement agencies should a problem occur. The NCIS Okinawa project anticipates presentation of the parents’ version to PTA and other interested groups here.

The SafeKids e-mail account, safekids@ncis.navy.mil, is offered to parents and provides a way to contact law enforcement agencies to report suspected criminal activity. It provides no technical or educational support.

The NCIS website, www.ncis.navy.mil/safekids, offers information for both children and their parents about safe Internet use, as well as provide more information on the SafeKids program.

Available free on the website is a SafeKids screen saver which can be downloaded and installed at home, providing reinforcement to information provided during the program. Also available is the “Protecting Your Children In Cyberspace” shareware software advertised on the American Forces Network.

All aspects of the SafeKids program reinforce the positive opportunities afforded children and their parents through the Internet, while teaching safety measures.

According to the SafeKids website, “Even with the risks, the Internet is still one of the safest places for kids to ‘hang out.’”

Signs of Internet abuse

The following information is available on the NCIS website, www.ncis.navy.mil/safekids.

Several signs that your child may be involved in inappropriate or illegal Internet use include:

- Excessive use of on-line services, especially late at night.
- Unsupervised time in unmoderated chat rooms.
- Large amounts of graphic files downloaded.
- Phone calls or meetings with people you don’t know.

For any questions or concerns regarding the SafeKids program, contact Matt Parsons at 645-0205.

SAFETY ZONE

Marine Corps Base Safety: Keeping you safe and informed

BASE SAFETY OFFICE

Many have been to the Base Safety office and not even realized it. In fact, when polled, the average person will say, “I have no idea” when asked to point out the location this branch. However, when asked to point out the building they’ve been issued a drivers license, they’ve described the exact location of MCBJ Base Safety office located on Camp Foster in Building 5831. The fact that this office provides many services in addition to the licensing program may sometimes go unnoticed. The staff of 31 energetic employees supports an overall population of approximately 24,000 at risk personnel. An overview of Marine Corps Order 5100.8F, the driving publication we build our safety program around, outlines the core safety services that support our customers. Our mission statement, “to develop and implement comprehensive safety and occupational health programs for all Marine Corps Commands on Okinawa and independent commands at Yokosuka; Camp Fuji; and Marine Corps Air Stations, Iwakuni and Futenma, Japan,” gives an insight into our overall span of safety coverage.

To understand the degree of importance that safety is given, one would only have to look at

our position in the chain of command under the Commanding General. Now recognized as a special staff function, safety is aligned directly under the Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Base, Col. R. T. Farmer. As you can imagine, safety at that level is serious business at all times. Designated as the Assistant Chief of Staff Safety, Charles Roberts is the new leader of this diversified organization. His goal is ensure that his branch provides every possible avenue of service to ensure safety of all personnel.

The list of services safety provides seems endless and supports both our U.S. and Japanese customers. Here’s a brief run down:

- On base facilities safety compliance inspections
- Asbestos and lead oversight
- Confined space inspections and training
- Load and tool testing
- Laser, radiological and radio frequency safety
- Safety awareness briefings (safety stand downs, etc.)
- Vehicle licensing (government and privately owned)
- Safety training (respiratory protection, drivers’ improvement, asbestos awareness, etc.)
- Motor cycle safety courses
- GOV explosive and hazardous material training course

Many other specific Corps safety services are provided and can accessed by e-mail request sent to Charles Roberts or James Maldonado.

Both can be found on the mcbbutler.usmc.mil address listing.



NJP REPORT

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for Jan. 21-27.

• Driving While Intoxicated

A Sergeant with Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron-1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of driving while intoxicated. Punishment: reduction to E-4, forfeiture of \$500 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Lance Corporal with 3d Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of driving while intoxicated and underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$450 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

• Underage drinking

A Lance Corporal with Marine Air Control Squadron-4, 1st MAW, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: restriction for 30 days.

A Lance Corporal with 3d Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction for 60 days.

A Private First Class with Combat Assault Battalion, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$300 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

Two Privates First Class with 3/12, 3d MarDiv, were found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$521 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Private First Class with 3/12, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$272 per month for one month and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A Private with CAB, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$300 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Corporal with 3d MRB, 3d FSSG, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$350 per month for one month and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A Lance Corporal with 3d MRB, 3d FSSG, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$283 per month for one month and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A Lance Corporal with 3d MRB, 3d FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$500 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

A Lance Corporal with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking and purchasing alcohol underage. Punishment: forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 60 days.

A Lance Corporal with H&S Bn, MCB, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$521 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 60 days.

Squadron changes hands

LtCol Gregory V. Corbett relinquished command of Marine Wing Support Squadron-172 Jan. 26 to LtCol Peter M. Warker. LtCol Corbett will be reassigned to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Logistics.

LtCol Warker comes to MWSS-172 after serving at II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C., as a Plans Officer, Operations Officer and Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics.

LtCol Warker is a 1982 United States Naval Academy graduate. While attending Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., LtCol Warker completed his Master of Science degree in Management at St. Mary's College.



LtCol Peter M. Warker



LtCol Gregory V. Corbett

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

"Marines in Acquisition"

An 18-minute video titled "Marines in Acquisition" will air daily until Feb. 6 at 1, 3, and 7 p.m. on cable channel 7.

The video explains to Marine company grade officers and majors the career enhancing opportunities that are available in the acquisition community.

"Your Corps" is a new monthly video program produced by Headquarters Marine Corps. It covers the latest issues affecting the Marine Corps today, along with a monthly safety feature and Marine sports segment.

"Your Corps" is airing everyday at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on base cable channel 7.

For more information about career enhancing acquisition opportunities, contact John Klemm Jr. at DSN 312-278-4968.

Welcome Marine Program

The Welcome Marine Program is accepting applications for the WMP Scholarship. Applications should be submitted to the local education office by Feb. 16. One scholarship will be awarded to a service member on Okinawa.

The scholarship will award one student up to 300,000 yen per year depending on the need for up to two years.

Applicants should either be a part-time student at a university on Okinawa or plan to proceed to a college full time in the United States after retirement or separation from active duty.

One of the students areas of study should be related to one of the following fields: Japanese studies; U.S.-Japan relations; or Security in the Far East.

Applicants should prepare a personal history, a photo (passport size), an essay on how this scholarship will contribute to my future plans, and a recommendation letter from their command.

The winner of the scholarship will be chosen March 10 and will be introduced at the Welcome Reception of the WMP's invitation program, held in Tokyo, Japan, around the end of April.

Applicants will also be required to attend an interview on Okinawa with the scholarship committee.

For more information on the scholarship or application requirements contact your unit education officer or MCCS Life Long Learning Center at 645-3486.

Underwater photography contest

The Kadena Marina is hosting the Wet Shoot Underwater Photography Contest from Feb. 1 to March 31.

This contest is open to all SOFA status personnel and offers a good opportunity to showcase participants' photography skills while enjoying the waters surrounding Okinawa.

An underwater photography professional will be on hand as well to offer a free slide show and photo clinic for contestants and, weather permitting, the

Kadena Marina will offer two Kerama Boat Dive trips during the contest.

With three levels of underwater camera classes, the contest allows participants with a housed, amphibian, or point-and-shoot cameras to compete against each other in the following categories: macro, wide angle, fish and people. This will allow participants of the same skill and camera level to compete against each other.

The fee for entering the contest is \$20 and includes a contest T-shirt, up to four rolls of film, development of the film and a ticket to the Kadena Marina Wet Shoot Barbecue and awards ceremony on March 31.

Contestants can enter at the Kadena Marina Dive Shop from Feb. 1-28.

For a full list of contest rules and more information, please contact the Kadena Marina at 634-6344.

Spouse tuition assistance

The Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society will open registration for the Spouse Tuition Assistance Program for Term IV.

Applications can be picked up Feb. 12-16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. only at the Camp Foster Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society office, Building 5674.

The STAP is a need-based grant program open to all spouses who have accompanied active duty Navy and Marine Corps members overseas and who are going to attend undergraduate or graduate school on Okinawa.

For more information, call 645-7808.

Health care needs

Capt Margaret A. McNulty, Clinical Nurse Researcher, U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa is conducting a study that identifies stressors for families of deployed Sailors and Marines.

This research is also designed to make improvements in the delivery of health care, not just for deployed families, but the entire military community on Okinawa.

For more information about the study or participating call 643-7870.

DRMO Cash and Carry Sale

DRMO Okinawa will be holding their Cash and Carry Retail Sale every Wednesday afternoon from noon to 2 p.m. along with the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon. Saturday sales may change due to holidays.

The sale is located at Bldg. 600 on Camp Kinser and is open to all SOFA status personnel.

All items must be purchased for personal use only and payment must be in U.S. dollars, cash only.

Customers who purchase items must pay for and remove them the day of the sale.

For more information, call 637-3707/2918.

To submit a brief ...

Send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil or fax your request to 645-3803. The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only and they are run on a space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for submitting briefs is noon every Friday and the Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material to fit space.

Blacks' history is American history



PFC DAMIAN MCGEE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

I've heard people ask about why there is not a White History Month, which is a very ignorant question in my opinion.

Equally as ignorant is the comment I've heard about Black History Month being celebrated during February because this is the shortest and coldest month of the year.

I decided that instead of trying to counter such simple-minded statements of little merit, I would explain the history and true meaning of this ethnic celebration.

Black History Month was originally started as Black History Week in 1926.

The week originally coincided with the birthdays of former President Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass, a famous black author and early civil rights advocate.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a black scholar, historian, son of former slaves and founder of Black History Month initiated the holiday after noticing the lack of Black history in school curriculums.

Dr. Woodson's motto was that it is "never too late to learn."

With this in mind, it shouldn't be hard to understand that the purpose of Black History Month is for everyone to learn and celebrate the contri-

butions of blacks overall.

It doesn't have to be a time to celebrate commonly acknowledged African Americans such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver, or other well known Blacks.

Instead, it is a time for people to find out more about interesting African Americans who have also made historical contributions to the advancement of American society.

An unfortunate aspect of this, however, is that most people don't know where to begin studying about these historical figures.

What many need to realize is that the source of information is not important. There are many different resources available and the amount of information is growing daily.

I myself have found it can be as simple as stopping by a local library.

Many libraries have progressively gotten better with the information they offer on

all ethnic groups, in addition to the unlimited access available on the Internet.

I encourage everyone to use Black History Month as an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of African-Americans, both past and present.

The point I'm trying to make is that Black History Month is not only for or about African Americans.

It is simply a month when American history highlights the contributions made by an ethnic group that may have, if not for this month, gone unnoticed.

"...the purpose of Black History Month is for everyone to learn and celebrate the contributions of blacks overall."

USING YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND FEEDBACK

The scenario published in the *What Would You Do?* Jan. 26 issue of *Okinawa Marine* dealt with how to properly use your chain of command in order to fix what you perceive to be problem with your unit's PT program. Should you jump your chain of command if asked directly by your battalion commander what you think of your unit's PT program?

Feedback:

As a Marine you need to exercise moral courage and pursue what you think is right. When asked, the Marine could have answered, "Sir, there is always room for improvement."

The answer of, "say nothing" is not using moral courage. The chaplain is correct, as noncommissioned officers and Marines it's your duty to pursue this challenging issue for the sake of the other Marines. If you do the right things for the right reasons you'll never go wrong.

As for the answer of "telling the battalion commander everything you think is wrong with the PT program" without using the proper chain of command is wrong. We as leaders need to be sure we do things the right way, to include proper use of the chain of command.

It is our responsibility to train all Marines in the best and safest way possible.

- SgtMaj Felipe Pinon, MCB Sergeant Major

What Would You Do?

The following examination of leadership issues is not intended to present right or wrong answers. The goal is to provide a forum to encourage leadership discussions of challenging issues. Chaplain responses are designed to provide moral and ethical guidance. Questions, comments or ideas for a future scenario may be submitted to: editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Standing up to gangs

You pride yourself on having a good platoon and believe yours is the best in the company. The battalion commander even mentioned you by name as being a good role model for the junior platoon commanders.

Last week you received two new Marines, Cpl Rivas and a LCpl Duarte. Within a couple of days of their arrival the first fight broke out. It was between Rivas and Sergeant Washington, a squad leader from a different squad. You counseled them both and sent them on their way with a stiff warning that there will be no further fighting.

That night you are awakened by a phone call from your platoon sergeant. Washington is in the hospital. He was severely beaten. The duty says he saw Cpl Rivas and LCpl Duarte leaving Washington's room. You are stunned to learn your Marines are talking about gang ties leading to the incidents.

You had no clue that anyone in your platoon was in a gang. This has taken you completely by surprise. It seems like just yesterday you and your platoon were the role models of the battalion.

You agree to meet your platoon sergeant at the hospital so you can check on Washington. The question that keeps running through mind is, "what are you going to do about the gang problem?"

What the Marines said

Second Lieutenant with 3d FSSG: "I'd hate to have to go and brief my commanding officer that I have an alleged gang problem. Especially, that it escalated to such a level without my knowledge, but I would tell him."

Captain with MCB: "There are Marine Corps Orders specifically targeting gang related behavior. I'd reference these immediately when meeting with the Platoon Sergeant and the Squad Leaders to discuss my plan to return to our rightful position as best in the battalion. Shortly after making sure my subordinate leaders are on board with the plan, I'll hold a platoon formation to talk about and eliminate racial and/or gang related tensions, and concentrating on working together, focusing on the "we're all green Marines mentality". Severe punishment will follow any and all infractions of this policy. Then I would backbrief the company CO and the battalion XO and First Sergeant."

First Lieutenant with 3d MarDiv: "I'd fry them all. Any faction that tries to undermine discipline in my platoon would see the brig in a whole new light"

What the Chaplain said

A very serious injury has occurred which caused one individual to be hospitalized. Gang activity of any sort is not tolerated in the US military, therefore, you are ethically and morally responsible to report the incident.

Violent gang behavior breeds more violence, intimidation and threat of injury. The message of intolerance must be reiterated to include mandatory training for the entire command so that each member is empowered to do the right thing should it occur again.

This incident must be reported and investigated; also the perpetrator(s) must be held accountable.

Gang activity in the military and in the general public is contrary to good order and discipline.

- Navy LCDR Brenda E Bradley-Davila, Coordinating Chaplain, Foster Chapel



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<http://okinawa.usmc.mil>

Teru Tomari chops broccoli to put into cream of broccoli soup.



PHOTOS BY LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT

Hitoshi Kinjo prepares chickens for cooking.



Center makes enough

Food to Feed an army

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP KINSER — The food Marines and Sailors enjoy everyday to keep them strong and healthy is not made in a far-off, distant factory but by local professionals with tender loving care.

The Cook-Chill Production Center supplies 71 percent of all food to the chow halls and other dining facilities located on Marine Corps bases and supports all Marines and Sailors within III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Base, Camp Butler.

The center produces ready-to-eat and pre-cooked food for various facilities providing well-balanced and tasty food for their customers.

"We make things like salad mixes and pre-cooked chili mac," said Leon Hill, Food Production Officer, Cook-Chill Production Center. "We make it so that when the chow halls receive food all they have to do is heat it up or put it in a bowl and serve it."

The center prepares produce, side items and meat items for the chow halls. Each item goes through a process to insure freshness and quality.

Produce items are simply prepared and placed in vacuum packed bags then placed in a walk-in refrigerator.

Side items, like chili mac and gravy, are

cooked in 200-gallon kettles and placed in vacuum-sealed bags. Then the bags go through a Rapid Tumble Chilling processes where the bags are placed in circulating cold water that cools the bags from 180 degrees to 40 degrees Fahrenheit in 60 minutes or less.

Meat items are cooked in large ovens that can hold hundreds of turkeys and hams and then placed directly into a deep freeze unit.

"All food items are cooled down fast so that they are in the danger temperature zone for the least amount of time possible," Hill said. "This way, we can get the longest shelf life out of the products as we can."

The shelf life of each product is approximately 45 days.

"Since we deliver our food products each day, it is unusual that a product will extend its shelf life," Hill said.

Using the cook-chill method, the center provides the Marine Corps with constant, quality products with little waste, according to Hill.

"Using vacuum-packed bags reduces the need for cardboard boxes and it allows the chow halls to place the bags in boiling water to heat, then serve," Hill said.

The center is always busy cooking and preparing food for III MEF and MCB. The center prepares approximately 26,000 daily meals.

"We make food items using a 28-day cycle, so the Marines and Sailors in the chow halls

are only getting the same meal ever 28 days," Hill said.

Even though the Marines and Sailors are the center's priority, the center provides food to many facilities around the island. The center also prepares some food items for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools, Morale Welfare and Recreation and Marine Corps Community Service clubs and commissaries located islandwide.

"If something happened, we have enough food to support all Marine Corps, Navy, Army, and Air Force chow halls, as well as all commissaries, with ready-to-eat food items and all military clubs located throughout the island," Hill said.

In the future, the center will provide even more food items.

"The new facility, scheduled to be built in 2004, will be able to provide bakery items to the chow halls, commissaries, etc.," Hill said.

"The new facility will provide things like cookie dough and cake mixers and it will be up to the messhalls to finish baking the items," said CW03 Daniel L. Linnabary, Deputy Food Service Officer, Cook-Chill Production Center.

The new facility is will be built next to Building 202 here, and will be approximately 75 percent the size of a warehouse, according to CW03 Linnabary. Along with a new bakery, the facility will have new cooking equipment and a new food lab that will research the shelf life of food items.



Toshihiko Naka places celery in a washing and chopping machine before it is bagged and vacuum packed to be use in various food items.



Celery falls into a bucket after being chopped and washed in the vegetable preparation station of the Cook-Chill Production Center, so it can be later bagged and vacuum packed.



Tamura Kazihiro washes out a room thoroughly after preparing food items destined for dining facilities islandwide.



Tomari, left, and Shigo Arakaki remove the shells from hard boiled eggs.



PHOTOS BY CPL MATTHEW E. HABIB
Sgt William E. Martin, Ammunition Technician, Ammunition Supply Platoon, Ordnance Maintenance Company, 3d MRB, keeps close track of the numbers before sending out a shipment of ammunition.



LCpl DeShawn E. Simmons, Ammunition Technician, Ammunition Supply Platoon, Ordnance Maintenance Company, 3d MRB, uses a forklift to take cargo out of storage.

M For the Ammunition Supply Platoon, 3d Materiel Readiness Battalion, keeping track of grenades, mortars and bullets is just another part of Making the rounds

CPL MATTHEW E. HABIB
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP SCHWAB — For every training evolution on Okinawa that requires rounds being put down range, grenades being thrown, or shells exploding, the Ammunition Supply Platoon, Ordnance Maintenance Company, 3d Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, is surely involved.

While accountability of the ammunition and supporting Marine units throughout the island is a major part of their job, there are various aspects that go into being part of the ASP that not only ensures missions are accomplished, but are also important in keeping Marines and their surrounding Okinawan neighbors safe and well protected.

According to SSgt Andrew Wilhelm, Issue Chief, ASP, Ord. Maint. Co., 3d MRB, there are three main components within the unit that ensure all of this is achieved, and they leave no room for error.

"While the Marines are going through the process of picking up and/or returning ammo, our unit is constantly checking and rechecking the orders to make sure the numbers are correct, and that the ammo is in good condition," SSgt Wilhelm said. "It is very important to make sure everything is accounted for, down to the very last round. If it isn't, then the numbers come up short, and someone has to explain why the 'ammo' is missing."

The ASP Marines are quite proficient in doing their job. They have their procedures worked out to a science that helps the receiving Marines get their order in a timely fashion and make sure everything is done correctly, according to SSgt Wilhelm.

"Basically, there are three parts that a Marine who is picking up ammo for his unit must go through in order to receive his order," SSgt Wilhelm said. "Before the Marine even arrives, stor-

age has already secured the order the day before, and has it ready go when the receiving Marine gets here. The issue section first inspects the Marines' vehicle, making sure it is (in good shape) and safe for transporting the ammo. After he is cleared, the Marine moves onto the records section which confirms the order and gives him his paperwork. Finally, he moves onto the supply section, which rechecks and then gives him his ammunition."

"The receiving Marine then confirms the order himself, and moves back to the records section which confirms the numbers are correct. Then, the issue section checks the ammo's content and the Marine's vehicle one last time," SSgt. Wilhelm said. "Altogether, the ammunition is checked and rechecked five times. This way, if a mistake is made, the numbers will come up short before the Marine leaves, and we can fix any problems right away. This helps keep everyone safe."

The Marines who work in the ASP records section are actually the first step in the process of supplying ammunition to the units. From the start, their main mission is to keep track of the requesting unit's balance and process their request. This can prove to be a difficult task, but the handful of Marines who make up the records section are always up to the challenge and simply see it as a job they have to do.

"We are the nerve center of the ASP," said Sgt Amber R. Allison, Assistant Record Chief, ASP, Ord. Maint. Co., 3d MRB. "If the ammo doesn't match our records, then something is definitely wrong, and it needs to be fixed."

"There are a total of six Marines working in the records office, and we are responsible for keeping track of

every ground unit's ammunitions records. I feel as though the Marines who work in this office are the best of the best and completely focused and dedicated to their work. They have to be, because if the records section is wrong, then everyone in the ASP is wrong."

The issuing section holds an equally important position in the ASP, and is responsible for the first and last line of physical safety. As soon as a vehicle pulls up to the ASP gate, the issuing Marines go into action.

"We inspect to make sure the vehicle is in good working condition, and has the capabilities to transport the ammo safely," said Cpl Reuschel N. Ortiz, Issue Technician, ASP, OMC, 3d MRB. "We also make sure the Marine has the

proper safety equipment, and knows how to handle the particular ammunition he is carrying in case an emergency arises. After we escort them onto the compound to receive their ammo and everything is finalized, we check the ammo one last time, and make sure it is properly secured on the vehicle."

Storage, the final section, is responsible for the sorting and caretaking of the ammunition itself. When ammunition needs to be moved, the storage Marines make sure the proper containers are available, pull out orders from the supply, and inspect the quality of the ammo.

"These Marines are extremely efficient in their MOS, but the daily grind can sometimes get repetitive," Wilhelm said. "These young Marines have major responsibilities, and have to constantly make sure it doesn't get the better of them. In order to avoid this, we switch the Marines in the different sections around to help get fresh perspectives, and we always watch each other's back. There is no room for complacency in our MOS."

"There is no room for complacency in our MOS."

— SSgt Andrew Wilhelm



PHOTOS BY SGT JOHN SAYAS
Before the clock is stopped, Marines have to pass "the final test." Marines find this obstacle to be the toughest because it is the last one after a 5-mile journey on the endurance course.

Test of Strength: Marine lieutenants learn the ropes of endurance

SGT JOHN SAYAS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va.

— It was a cold and early January morning and the Marine lieutenants of Company A stood facing the challenge. All they could see in front of them was the start of the obstacle course. Beyond that they could see only a trail leading to a tree line, which began the five-mile Endurance Course.

It was the first time, but not the last time during their training the Marines would encounter the rough, snow-covered course at The Basic School. Ahead was a test of mental and physical strength for the Marines who might someday see combat.

Wearing only their "deuce gear" and with rifles in hand, they completed the obstacle course before venturing into the forest to experience the simulation of a combat environment.

"It can be extremely difficult," said Capt Shenandoah Sanchez, Fourth Platoon Commander, Company A. "It's a combat conditioning course that tests them mentally and physically."

Throughout the course, the Marines have to strategically move through rigorous terrain in a timely manner. Given a time limit of 80 minutes for males and 90 minutes for females, the Marines must fight the deterring thoughts of fatigue as they move through the winding trails leading through a series of obstacles such as log hurdles, rope climbs, high walls and window frames along the course. Many of the obstacles may not be seen right away, such as the



Marine lieutenants must complete the obstacle course before attempting the 5-mile endurance course at The Basic School.

log hurdles, but this only develops the lieutenants' situational awareness.

"There isn't just one feat, but a combination of feats," Capt Sanchez said. "The first mile or two are just rugged terrain and then there are the log hurdles and the ropes. They're purposely spread out because they're at points where the Marines are mentally tired."

The strategy has changed for most of the Marines, as they discover they need to conserve energy in order to make to the end.

"There is a strategy to this course," Capt Sanchez said. "It is designed so that you can run at certain areas and walk at other parts of the course and still come in under the time limit. You have to maintain focus."

Once they have made it through the course, there is one last hurdle that stands only about four feet off the ground, however, it's the most difficult.

"You would think anybody could get over that log, but many can't," Capt Sanchez said, pointing to a struggling Marine. "It's that final test."

The Basic School dedicates room to Medal of Honor recipient

SGT JOHN SAYAS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. — MajGen James E. Livingston served his country during one of the most troubling times in American history — the Vietnam War. For his actions during that time he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

MajGen Livingston was honored again Jan. 12 when his name was placed on a wall at O'Bannon Hall, The Basic School. His picture and Medal of Honor citation hang at eye level, where he can "look" into the eyes of Marine officers who follow in his footsteps as they enter the room he lived in thirty-eight years ago.

This is to give the lieutenants a moment of realization — that Marine Corps' heroes started their careers and lived in these same rooms when they were lieutenants, said Col John R. Allen, TBS Commanding Officer, to the lieutenants who attended the small event.

"This dedication is one of a series to honor those who have lived in these same rooms and gone on to lead Marines into combat," said Col Allen.

MajGen Livingston, who retired in 1995 after 33 years of service, was able to attend the ceremony. He talked to the lieutenants standing in the hallway leading to his room about the life he lived while at

O'Bannon Hall. It wasn't the same lifestyle as in Vietnam. It was a time where friends were made and brotherhood was forged.

The memories came back to him as he stood there, while eyes peered at the medal he wore that carries the highest-ranking award. He remembered the names of those who lived with him here and went on to serve the Marine Corps. Many of those he does remember never returned from Vietnam — too many to count, but names never forgotten.

"Half of the Marines who were involved in my platoon died in Vietnam," said MajGen Livingston. "Memories are important. The experiences help characterize you as a person ... You're part of the Corps' legacy and don't ever deviate from that course."

MajGen Livingston served as the commanding officer of Co E, 2d Bn, 4th Marines, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade when he was fighting against enemy forces in Vietnam May 2, 1968. According to his Medal of Honor citation, his company was in Dai Do, which had been seized by the enemy the night before, separating a company of Marines from the rest of battalion. In an effort to support those Marines, MajGen Livingston maneuvered his men across 500 meters of dangerous open rice paddy while under intense enemy fire. Ignoring the hostile rounds im-



SGT JOHN SAYAS
Medal of Honor recipient, MajGen James E. Livingston, talks with Col John R. Allen, TBS Commanding Officer, prior to a room being dedicated in his honor at O'Bannon Hall.

pacting around him, he fearlessly led his men against enemy emplacements within the village.

Shouting words of encouragement, he led his men to heaviest points of attack, taking out 100 enemy bunkers and driving the remaining enemy back, relieving the stranded company.

MajGen Livingston was wounded twice, and again during an enemy counterattack. He refused evacuation until he had assured the safety of his men.



LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
Tara Sueyoshi, 93, listens to LCpl Dustin I. Bores, Nuclear Biological Chemical Specialist, G-3, H&S Co, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG, play his saxophone for the elderly at the Dijon Hospital.



LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
GySgt David L. Austin, Inspector, G-4, H&S Co, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG, talks to the elderly at the Dijon Hospital with the help of Ichino Kuba, Community Relations Specialist, Camp Services, Camp Kinser, who translated between them.

Marines, Sailors make friends at elderly Hospital

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

URASOE CITY, Okinawa — Marines and Sailors from Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group visited the elderly residents at the Dojin Hospital here Jan. 18 for a day of dancing, food and friendship.

The Marines didn't have to go far to help since the hospital is located across from Kinser's Gate 3.

The community-minded service members who visit the hospital monthly spend their time exchanging cultures via music, dancing and food.

"We try to go to the hospital every third Thurs-

day of the month," said GySgt David L. Austin, Inspector, G-4, H&S Company, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG.

During their visit, service members had the opportunity to play some of their music for the elderly. LTJG Philip B. Bagrow, Chaplain, H&S Bn, sang two songs and LCpl Dustin I. Bores, Nuclear Biological Chemical Marine, G-3, H&S Bn., played a few songs on his saxophone as the residents clapped along.

After the service members were done, it was the residents' turn to sing some songs and to show the Marines how to dance to Okinawan folk music.

"It's an experience I think every Marine should take part in before leaving," said LCpl Robert J. Harris, Network Technician, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG. "It helps you better understand the culture, and this is a once-in-a-lifetime thing and it should be enjoyed before going back to the States."

When the music was turned off, everyone sat down to share enjoyed refreshments. They had cookies and brownies brought by some of the Marines and drank soda provided by the hospital. After eating, everyone said their good-byes and the elderly went back to their rooms to await the next



LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
LTJG Philip B. Bagrow, Chaplain, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG, and LCpl Robert J. Harris, Network Technician, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG, shakes hands with the elderly at the Dijon Hospital.

visit from the Marines across the street.

"They enjoy the visits very much; they don't get guests very often and when the Marines come to see them, they become much happier," said Sueko Iha, Assistant, Dojin Hospital.

Killin's first graders embark on a scientific journey

LCPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Approximately 120 first-graders from Edward C. Killin Elementary School participated in a Science Day here Jan 19.

The event's purpose was to give the children some hands-on demonstrations involving the states of matter, according to Pam Martin, First-Grade Teacher at Killin.

According to Martin, she wanted the children to understand that matter is the substance of which all physical objects are composed and it changes shape, sometimes not only through heat, but also through pressure.

"My children made slime by mixing cornstarch and water," Martin said. "I wanted them to think about what happens if they pour it from hand to hand, poke it with their fingers and

apply pressure."

The children enjoyed participating in the many activities that made up the science day.

"It was fun," said Asia Berry, 7, a student at Killin. "I got to make a mess with the bubbles."

Hopefully, the states of matter covered during the event will be the building blocks the children use as they grow older, according to Cindy Brown, First-Grade Teacher, at Killin.

"We're laying a foundation," said Laurie Simpson, First-Grade Teacher, Team Leader, First-Grade Teaching Team, at Killin. "This is a basis for all science classes that these kids are going to do for the rest of their lives."

This event is different from a science fair which usually involves static displays and a long process of tracking and collecting data, according to Simpson.

"The science day consists of hands

on experiments and lots of experiences in one day," Simpson said. "It culminates the unit we have been teaching on states of matter."

Each of the six classrooms focused on the states of matter in different ways to help the children relate to it, according to Martin.

"It's the practical application of the states of matter," Martin said. "They can see it in everyday life because they can take what was done in a science experiment and relate to it."

The teachers were trying to convey to the children science is all around them in everyday life, according to Simpson.

"If we didn't have the states of matter, there would be nothing anywhere," Martin said. "It's the world around us, not just here to experiment on for the day but applies to our everyday lives."

"The kids love science," Brown said. "They call it magic."



LCPL CHAD SWAIM
During Killin Elementary School's Science day, first-graders participate in an experiment that demonstrates a gaseous form of matter.

Americans storm local rugby league

Sole U.S. team battles way to third place in Okinawan Rugby Union

LCPL CHAD SWAIM
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LESTER — The only American rugby team competing in the Okinawan Rugby Union has battled its way to a 3rd-place ranking. The Exiles are a joint-service team with Marines, Sailors, Airmen, and Soldiers competing together in the local league.

The Okinawan league is separated into three divisions, A, B, and C. All teams start in Division C and work their way up, according to Exiles scrum-half Blain Morgan.

"When I arrived here two years ago the team defeated the last place Division B team," Morgan said. "So we took their position and worked our way up to 3rd place in Division A."

The team is currently competing in a tournament that started Jan. 14 and will end in February during the playoffs.

Rugby is usually played with 15 players per team. The game is divided into halves that last 30 to 40 minutes with a five-minute break at halftime.

The tournament which is being played with the Okinawan league will be played with a different set of rules called sevens. When playing by the sevens rules, the number of players on each team is reduced to seven and the halves are shortened to seven minutes.

"The halves are a lot shorter because it's still played on the same size field, with little less than half the players," according to Morgan.

Unlike football, rugby is a very fluid game and the action almost never stops, according to Morgan. In football, action is halted when a referee throws down a penalty flag or blows a whistle.

"In rugby, when there's a penalty the referee will hold out his hand to signal that he saw it," he said. "The referee will not stop the game unless the pen-



The Exiles' Jason Blais plows through players from an Okinawan team Jan. 13 in Yomitan City during the second game of a tournament they are currently competing in.

alty impedes the flow of the game."

According to Morgan, the players on the field are the offensive and defensive teams. "I was never a big guy," Morgan said. "I like to play offense and defense, and in this game I can do that."

"One thing about teams like this is that generally everybody that comes out gets to play," said Exiles center, Brent E Hyland.

Rugby has become one of the fastest growing sports throughout the world.

"I don't even pay attention to football anymore," Morgan said. "I don't know who has played in the Super Bowl for the last eight years."

The Exiles are always looking for new players. For more information about joining The Exiles, contact Jeremy Allen at 645-6282.

Coaches needed for Semper Fit Youth Soccer Program

SGT ROBERT J. ANGUS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The Semper Fit Youth Soccer Program still needs more than 100 coaching volunteers for the upcoming youth soccer season which begins March 17.

"We still need coaches and assistant coaches to help us with our biggest youth sports program of the year," said Rick L. Gates, Recreation Assistant, Semper Fit Youth Sports, Marine Corps Community Services. "We had more than 900 children participate last year and we hope to have more than 1,000 register this year."

Though the deadline for player registration is Feb. 9, there is no real deadline for volunteering to help with coaching the young players, according to Gates.

"We'll take volunteers until we have enough for every team," Gates

said. "We'll take anyone who can spare three hours a week to help us uplift the spirits of children."

The eight-week soccer season for children ages 5-18 focuses more on teaching the fundamentals and having fun than the competition, Gates said.

"No experience is needed," said Dave P. Ingold, who volunteers for soccer, basketball and baseball. "I just have a basic understanding of the rules and a little patience. You have to realize the children are going to make mistakes ... that's how they learn."

There are many resources for volunteers who need help understanding the rules, or how to conduct the two hour-long practice sessions each week, according to Ingold.

"The referees and the Semper Fit staff are both really good about helping coaches understand the basics," Ingold said. "You can also talk to

other coaches to get ideas."

Semper Fit is not just looking for parents of players to be volunteers; anyone can come, according to Ingold.

"I volunteer because it gives me a chance to spend some quality time with my kids," Ingold said. "We did have some non-parent volunteers last year as well. I remember this one young lance corporal who was a great athlete and a great role model for the children last year. He came out simply because he enjoyed spending time with the children and passing on what he knew about soccer."

The most rewarding part of volunteering is watching the children have fun and learn, according to Ingold.

"I look forward to game days," said Ingold, who has been volunteering for nearly nine years now. "It's great to see the excitement in the

children and the fans as games are played. All the children get to play and everyone is having fun. It's very rewarding."

Semper Fit is giving all volunteers coaches classes that will certify them with the National Institute for Youth Sports Administration, according to Gates.

"Certification with the National Institute for Youth Sports Administration has been required for many years now in the States, but this is the first year we are requiring it here," Gates said. "The certification class shows coaches the proper way to treat and teach the children and once completed, it's good for two years and transfers anywhere you go in the States."

For more information on being a volunteer coach or assistant coach or registering a soccer player, contact Semper Fit Youth Sports at 645-3533.

All the Wright stuff

From Vegas to Hollywood, local performer juggles singing career with life in the Marine Corps

SGT JASON S. SCHAAP
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — She has served at Disneyland, sung in Vegas and even acted in Hollywood

But Kellie Wiker isn't exactly what many like to refer to as a "Hollywood Marine." Rather, she's toured such places while filling what many have called the toughest job in the Marine Corps; she's a Marine wife.

Her husband is Chief Warrant Officer-3 Phillip Wiker, Weather Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

However, Mrs. Wiker is better known by her stage name, Kellie Wright, lead singer of the local, blues/rock band Kellie Wright and Blue Diamond, whose schedule includes bimonthly shows at Marine Corps installations, a regular show on Kadena's Gate 2 street, and appearances at many of Okinawa's biggest events, such as the recent Peaceful Love Rock Fest 2000. But who is the Aussie-singer and manager whose name and vocals lead this local favorite.

With her long, fiery red hair, deep, contrasting blue eyes, and almost six-foot frame, she's been compared to Wynonna Judd. But her on-stage flair and raspy vocals are Joplinsque. Her repertoire is all of the above, and then some.

She can whale out Janis' "Piece of My Heart," and follow it with a slow, husky-low version of Sheryl Crow's "My Favorite Mistake." On the weekends, she performs acoustic jazz. Her favorite style is blues, which she likes to "sink (her) teeth into and rip apart."

She can whale out Janis' "Piece of My Heart," and follow it with a slow, husky-low version of Sheryl Crow's "My Favorite Mistake." On the weekends, she performs acoustic jazz. Her favorite style is blues, which she likes to "sink (her) teeth into and rip apart."

She has a resume that includes rock bands, jazz bands, Top 40 bands, musicals, traveling shows, solo and joint recordings, cabaret shows, modeling, commercials, and television.

For Wright, an entertainment career is family tradition. In fact, to say that entertaining is in her blood is an understatement.

Born Kellie Wright in her native land of Sydney, Australia, she said she kept her maiden name for her stage name as a tribute to her grandparents, Bobby and Marion Wright, who were famous Vaudeville performers.

Besides her grandparents, once known as "England's favorite Americans," her mother was a classical pianist and singer at age 13. She also hosted one of the first talk shows on Australian television and is still acting in Australian theater today. Her mother learned the piano with her other grandmother, who still teaches piano today in Australia at age 90.

Her father was a cinematographer who worked on Hollywood productions like "On the Beach," starring Gregory Peck, Ava Gardner and Fred Astaire.

So, Wright said it was only seemed natural she start acting and singing while growing up in Australia. But it wasn't until she was 17, when her parents moved to Los Angeles and she took the lead role in a production of the musical "Oliver," that Wright said she fully realized her singing talent.

She soon after landed a role as a featured singer in the famous production "Jubilee" in Las Vegas, where she met her husband just before he joined the Corps.

"When I met Phillip he had all this long hair," Wright remembered with a chuckle. "Then he went off to boot



Kellie Wright (last actress on the right) as "Gymnasia" in the production "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum" in Los Angeles.



Kellie Wright Wiker, lead singer of the local band Kellie Wright and Blue Diamond, sits with her son, 11-year-old Shane, while he practices piano. Music and entertaining has been a family tradition for Wiker, wife of Chief Warrant Officer-3 Phillip Wiker, weather officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

camp."

They married a year later while Wiker was stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif. After Wright finished the time left on her "Jubilee" contract, she joined her husband in California, where she performed in a "Vaudevillian," western-style show at Disneyland and started singing for bands for the first time.

Like many military wives before her, Wright had to drop everything when her husband received orders to Okinawa. She didn't have high hopes for continuing her career here.

"I got here and was like, 'What am I going to do now?'" Wright said.

What she did was find some airmen who were looking for a singer for their rock band, Vendetta. With her previous band experience focused on jazz, it was the first time Wright realized her talent and liking for singing rock.

"We were a great band," Wright said. "We played Camps Hansen, Schwab, Kinser, all over. We could have played five nights a week if we wanted to."

Vendetta split up after a year, which was a good thing for Wright, who was pregnant with her son, Shane. But after her son was born, while feeling extremely blessed by such a gift, Wright said she knew something was missing.

"I was still like, 'What am I going to do now?'" Wright said, referring to the same feeling she had when she first arrived on Okinawa.

Two months after her son was born, she found another band that allowed her to perform in the evenings and still be home in time to be up with her son in the morning.

According to Wright, singing isn't a job; it's a need. It's who she is.

"I've never done anything else; when I did a few other minor jobs I felt silly. I felt like I was acting."

She summed up her need to perform with an anecdote about Barbara Streisand, one of her favorite performers.

favorite performers.

"Someone once said to Streisand, 'Should I pursue acting?'" Wright said. "(Streisand) replied, 'If you have to ask ... no.'"

"It's not something you should have to ask yourself if you should do it or not. Singing, performing is something you have to do. It's something that's in you."

Wright again realized how important singing was to her when her husband received orders from Okinawa to a school in a remote part of Illinois. Their stay was only seven months, which meant Wright didn't really have enough time to find another band. She would have to go cold turkey.

"I started making crafts and sewing," Wright joked. "All my friends would make fun of me because they knew it just wasn't me."

With the exception of Illinois, Kellie's husband remembers how coming to Okinawa and subsequent relocations were positive experiences.

"Her singing has added interesting times to our lives," Wiker said. "I was a sergeant when we came to Okinawa the first time and her shows allowed us to interact with all the other services for the first time and to see the rest of this island."

A few bands and Marine Corps tours in California later, Wright's back in Okinawa with Blue Diamond, the best musicians she said she's ever worked with. Blue Diamond drummer Mike Robles said the band appreciates her humility.

"She's very supportive," Robles said. "She has a mutual respect for us and doesn't take us for granted like a lot of singers do."

Wright said her goal now is to record an original album with Blue Diamond and build on the success she has had with some solo songs she has recorded.

"I have some songs playing in Europe. Apparently I'm real big in Belgium," Wright said with a humble laugh.

Wright isn't the only member of the Wiker household with eyes on the stars. Continuing the family tradition, 11-year-old Shane is developing into a successful pianist.

Wright has even talked with her son about sitting in with Blue Diamond.

It seems Wright's two biggest accomplishments are ones that will never be added to her long resume: successful mother and Marine Corps wife.



AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1993 Suzuki Alto — JCI Jul 01, \$1,500. Jeff, 090-9786-7884.
 1993 Toyota Exiv — JCI Feb 02, \$3,500 OBO. 646-4289.
 1988 Honda — JCI Oct 02, \$900 OBO. 645-3919 or 646-8355.
 1989 Toyota Chaser — JCI Mar 02, \$2,500 OBO. 623-6306.
 1990 Honda CRX — JCI Jul 01, \$1,800 OBO. Mary, 633-0822.
 1990 Toyota Lite Ace — JCI Aug 01, \$3,000 OBO. 625-2896.
 1987 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Jul 02, \$1,500. 637-4061.
 1986 Honda Shad — \$1,800. Neil, 876-6062.
 1989 Mazda Familia — JCI Nov 01, \$700. 646-5910.
 1989 Nissan Skyline — JCI Sep 01, \$2,800 OBO. Nick, 646-6815.
 1994 Nissan March — JCI Jan 03, \$2,000 OBO. Mike, 643-7579.
 1989 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Jan 03, \$3,600 OBO. 646-5348.
 1988 Honda Prelude — JCI Dec 01, \$1,800 OBO. 090-9785-2197.
 1987 Mitsubishi Delica — JCI Dec 02, \$2,000 OBO. 637-3939.
 1988 Toyota Lite Ace — JCI Jul 02, \$3,000 OBO. 646-4905.
 1991 Mitsubishi Station Wagon — JCI Mar 02, \$1,950. 646-4937.
 1991 Toyota Hilux — JCI Apr 02, \$5,995. 956-7509.
 1989 Toyota ED — JCI Apr 02, \$1,500. 646-5094.
 1992 Honda CRX — JCI Mar 02, \$1,599 OBO. 642-2531.
 1989 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Aug 01, \$3,495 OBO. 646-5348.
 1995 Mazda MX3 — JCI Apr 02, \$2,000 OBO. John, 646-3073.
 1986 Nissan Vanette — JCI Feb 02, \$1,800. 637-3331.
 1989 Mazda — JCI Jul 02, \$1,500. Tom, 633-9154.
 1988 Honda Prelude — JCI Dec 01, \$1,800 OBO. 090-9785-2197.
 1991 Nissan Maxima — JCI Sep 01, \$2,600. 637-4097.
 1985 Honda Accord — JCI Sep 01, \$500 OBO. 623-7747.
 Daihatsu van — JCI Apr 00, \$350 or best offer. Grace, 090-9490-3458.

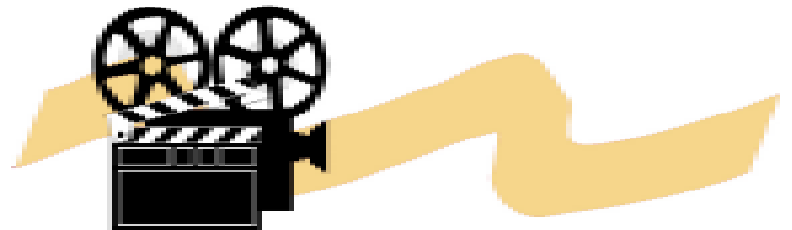


MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. — Yamaha RX-995 amplifier, \$500. 633-9659.
 Misc. — (4) Sonoma chair cushions, \$10 each; Simmons Crib Mattress, \$100; Fischer Price bed rail, \$15; Fischer Price tricycle, \$25; Graco high chair, \$20; Joy Ride infant seat, \$10; dresser-top changing pad, \$15; bouncer seat, \$10; Sesame Street Mini-Kitchen, \$10; and umbrella stroller, \$5. 672-7960.
 Misc. — Step 2 car, \$20; Lil Tykes triangular play structure, \$50; and metal full size bed, \$60. 622-5396.
 Misc. — Entertainment Center w/Fisher 25" TV, VCR, radio, dual cassette player, 24CD carousel, amp unit, 5 surround speakers, cabinet w/glass doors and oak finish, \$1,000 and Sony Mavica, \$300. 633-0774 leave message.
 Pet — FTGH full blooded boxer. 10 months old. 956-9904.
 Misc. — Trampoline, \$100 pick-up or \$125 delivered. 637-2598.
 Misc. — Profile 400 watt car amplifier, \$100. 646-6918.
 Misc. — California King Bed, \$225. 636-4880.
 Misc. — Wooden bunkbeds w/drawers, mattresses, matching dresser/mirror and toy chest, \$300. 646-4733.
 Printer — Canon Multipass printer/fax/scanner, \$80. 622-6670.
 Misc. — Crib, changing table and dresser, \$225. 622-8649.
 Pet — 10-month-old red doberman, FTGH. 646-8434.
 Misc. — Sony stereo/receiver w/remote. \$190. 646-6841.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week. The deadline for ads is noon, Fridays, space permitting. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Coming to a theater near you ...



Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice. **Call theaters in advance to confirm showtimes.** Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Courtney
(622-9616)
 Fri The Pledge (R); 7:00
 Sat What Women Want (PG13); 7:00
 Sun Bring It On (PG13); 7:00
 Mon Closed
 Tue Closed
 Wed Lost Souls (R); 7:00
 Thu Closed

Butler
(645-3465)
 Fri Antitrust (PG13); 7:00, 10:30
 Sat Little Nicky (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
 Sun Charlies Angels (PG13); 7:00, 10:30
 Sun Little Nicky (PG13); 1:00
 Sun Charlies Angels (PG13); 4:00, 7:00



Check Keystone, Kinser, Butler, Hansen and Schwab Theaters for show times.

Mon Charlies Angels (PG13); 7:00
 Tue The Legend of Drunken Master (R); 7:00
 Wed The Legend of Drunken Master (R); 7:00
 Thu The Pledge (R); 7:00

Kinser
(637-2177)
 Fri Red Planet (PG13); 7:00
 Sat Little Nicky (PG13); 3:00
 Sat Charlies Angels (PG13); 7:00, 11:30
 Sun The Legend of Drunken Master (R); 7:00
 Mon Closed
 Tue Little Nicky (PG13); 7:00
 Wed The Pledge (R); 7:00
 Thu The Legend of Drunken Master (R); 7:00

Keystone
(634-1869)
 Fri Bring It On (PG13); 6:30
 Fri Charlies Angels (PG13); 9:30
 Sat Most Valuable Primate (PG);



Check Kinser, Keystone, Hansen and Butler Theaters for show times.

Sat 1:00
 Sat Red Planet (PG13); 5:30
 Sat The Pledge (R); 9:00
 Sun Most Valuable Primate (PG); 2:00
 Sun The Pledge (R); 5:30, 9:00
 Mon The Legend of Drunken Master (PG13); 7:00
 Tue What Women Want (PG13); 7:00
 Wed Charlies Angels (PG13); 7:00
 Thu Cast Away (PG13); 7:00

Hansen
(623-4564)
 Fri The Legend of Baggar Vance (PG13)
 Sat Cast Away (PG13)
 Sun Little Nicky (PG13)
 Mon The Legend of Drunken Master (R)
 Tue The Legend of Drunken Master (R)
 Wed Charlies Angels (PG13)
 Thu Charlies Angels (PG13)
 Call Hansen for start times

Schwab
(625-2333)
 Fri Kings of Comedy (R)
 Sat Final Cut (R)
 Sat Red Planet (PG13)
 Sun Final Cut (R)
 Sun Red Planet (PG13)
 Mon The Pledge (R)
 Tue The Pledge (R)
 Wed Closed
 Thu The Legend of Drunken Master (R)

Call Schwab for start times

Futenma
(636-3890)
 Fri Lucky Numbers (R); 7:30
 Sat Red Planet



Check Kinser, Butler, Keystone, Schwab and Futenma Theaters for show times.